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March 3, 2022

Dear Chairmen Fonfara and Scanlon and members of the Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee.

House Bill 5094 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PERSONAL INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A RESIDENTIAL CHARGING STATION FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

On behalf of the Sierra Club and our more than 40,000 members and supporters in Connecticut, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 5094 An Act Establishing a Personal Income Tax Deduction for the Installation of a Residential Charging Station for Electric Vehicles.

The Sierra Club is committed to defending everyone's right to a healthy world by tackling the serious challenges of a warming climate and unprecedented levels of pollution. Fossil fuels are the main driver of climate change as well as unhealthy air, and therefore our most powerful tool to address both is to create a rapid and equitable transition away from fossil fuels to clean and renewable energy across all sectors of our economy.

Though Connecticut's Global Warming Solutions Act requires a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions below 2001 levels by 45% by 2030 and 80% by 2050 in alignment with climate science, DEEP's latest greenhouse gas inventory shows that we are not on track to meet these goals. The transportation sector accounts for 37.4% of greenhouse gas emissions in the state contributing to the climate crisis. Poor air quality is contributing to a health crisis disproportionately impacting Black, Brown and low income communities with acute and chronic respiratory problems such as asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, and other lung diseases.

That's why Connecticut must now focus on critically needed strategies to cut greenhouse gas emissions from the most polluting sources - buildings, transportation and electricity generation.

Sierra Club Connecticut supports House Bill 5094 which will establish a tax deduction for the purchase and installation of a residential EV charging station. This bill is a good step in the right direction to help residents with the necessary transition away from fossil fuel to zero-emission electric vehicles.

Thank you for consideration of our testimony.

Sincerely,

Samantha Dynowski, State Director Sierra Club Connecticut

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¹ https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/climatechange/GHG_Emissions_Inventory_2018.pdf